



HAGERSTOWN AREA INTERGROUP

P.O. Box 1153, Hagerstown, MD 21741

www.hagerstownaa.org

Answering Service: 301-733-1109

June 2013 Newsletter

HAIG INFORMATION

Monthly Meeting:

4th Sunday each month - 4 pm
223 N. Prospect St;
Hagerstown

TRUSTED SERVANTS

Officers:

Chairperson: Jack B.
chair@hagerstownaa.org

Treasurer: Henry R.
treasurer@hagerstownaa.org

Secretary: Angel Z.
secretary@hagerstownaa.org

Committee Chairs:

Activities: Beth S. and Liz M.

activities@hagerstownaa.org

Answering Service: Skeeter H.

District 20 DCM: Jan T.

Grapevine: Rick C.

Newsletter: Nancy B.

newsletter@hagerstownaa.org

Public Information:

Open Website: Wayne G.

website@hagerstownaa.org

Where & When: Carol W.

Corrections:

corrections@hagerstownaa.org

WCDC Women Carol B.

WCDC Men John B.

MCTC – Bob B. and David L.

Submit anniversaries, articles, etc.:
newsletter@hagerstownaa.org
Deadline for submissions is the 4th
Sunday of each month.

Step Six:

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Tradition Six:

An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Concept VI:

On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Date	Celebrant	Yrs	Group	Time
3	Ira C.	1	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm
4	Steven R.	1	Mountain Group	7:00 pm
8	Jeannie C.	25	Maple Avenue	8:00 pm
9	Ali S.	1	ARG	1:00 pm
10	Mike A.	9	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm
16	John C.	33	Scrabble Rd (WV)	7:00 pm
18	Steve C.	5	Mountain Group	7:00 pm
25	Jack C.	12	ARG	7:30 am
28	Joan S.	28	ARG	9:00 am
29	Christina D.	3	Maple Avenue	7:30 pm
30	Wayne B.	34	Leitersburg	7:00 pm
July				
1	Sandra M.	11	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm
7	Charles S.	24	Leitersburg	7:00 pm
10	David L.	11	Maple Avenue	7:30 pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

June 8 - 9:00 am to Noon Mountain Breakfast – Old Germantown Church of God, 16924 Raven Rock Road; Cascade, MD – Fellowship at 9:00, Breakfast at 10:00, Speaker at 11:00 – \$5.00 donation. Bring someone with you! Questions? See Carole H., Beth M., or Dave S

June 13 - June 16 – 43rd Annual MD State Convention
See more information at bottom of this page.

June 16 – 5:30 pm District 20 meeting – This meeting of GSRs takes place every 3rd Sunday at 200 E. Antietam St. (corner of Antietam and Mulberry). All are welcome.

June 23 – 4:00 pm Hagerstown Area Intergroup
meets at 223 N. Prospect Street; Hagerstown. All Intergroup Reps, Officers, and Committee Chairs should attend. All are welcome.

43rd Annual Maryland State Convention June 13 - 16, 2013 Hager Hall Convention Center Hagerstown, MD

REGISTER AT THE DOOR - \$29.00
Speakers – Workshops – Recovery Play
DJ Dance – Alcañon – Fellowship
Old Timers Panel

(A registration is required for all events.)

they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.



Big Book Step Study
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm for 12 weeks
beginning June 5th

Concordia Lutheran Church
(location of Tuesday Oakridge Group)
17906 Garden Lane; Hagerstown, MD



FAQ's about A.A.'s History



Q. Was Bill nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize?

A. Bill was never nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. In 1960 an individual from the New York area wrote to Bill concerning the possibility of a Nobel Prize. Bill responded that he would be delighted if overtures were made, but the award would have to cite Alcoholics Anonymous and not himself. Bill made it clear that the prize money could not be accepted because A.A. does not accept funds from any person or entity outside Alcoholics Anonymous. In addition, of course, there was the issue of Bill maintaining his anonymity, which would not have been possible with such a public award.

A proposal to nominate Alcoholics Anonymous for the Nobel Prize was presented in early 1986. After careful consideration and deliberation, the General Service Board of A.A. stated that the monetary prize without question would be declined. Beyond that, it was felt that, and in keeping with our Tenth Tradition, which enjoins us to venture no opinions on outside issues, no further comments were necessary.

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Did You Ever Wonder...?

According to the General Service Office archives, Bill W. commented about his use of "Defects of Character" (in Step Six) and "Shortcomings" (in Step Seven) interchangeably in the Steps. A personal letter he wrote dated November 16, 1965 read, in part:

When these Steps were being done, I didn't want to repeat the phrase 'character defects' twice in succession. Therefore in Step Seven, I substituted 'shortcomings', thereby equating 'shortcomings' and 'defects.'

When reading most people do equate that way and there seems to be no difficulty. I used them as though they both meant exactly the same thing – which they appear to many people.

I guess it's a problem in semantics, all right. For example, it is possible to say that each time you fall short of an ideal, to that extent is your character defective. Looking at it in the other way, 'shortcomings' can be read as a mere failure to do what should have been done. So I guess you have to take your pick.

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Intergroup Meeting Minutes June 2, 2013

Mark F., sitting in for Chair, Jack B., opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Other Officers in attendance were: Henry R., Treasurer. There were 13 in attendance with 10 of 21 groups represented.

Secretary's Report – The April minutes were accepted without reading.

Treasurer's Report – read and accepted as follows:

Balance available on	4/28/13	\$ 1,386.52
Contributions:		
None		
Total		\$ 0.00
Expenses:		
Antietam Call Center	132.30	
Verizon	39.24	
Nancy B.- Newsletter-Apr	49.98	
Wayne G. – Website	34.25	
Rick C. – Grapevine	92.55	
Total		\$ 348.32
Ending Balance		\$ 1,038.20
Less Prudent Reserve		- 300.00
Total Funds Available	6/2/13	\$ 738.20

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: Beth S. and Liz M. Liz submitted \$62.90 from the Round Robin Dinner 7th Tradition basket. She was issued a check from Intergroup for \$36.30 to cover other expenses from the Round Robin.

Answering Service: Skeeter H. absent

Men's Corrections: John B. absent

Women's Corrections: Carol B. absent

District 20: Jan T. was absent, but sent the following report to the newsletter chair: Jan T. will be stepping down as DCM for District 20 at the end of June. The DCM is an essential link between the Group GSR and our Area Delegate. While the (fall) election will take place in October to elect a DCM for 2014-2015, your District is looking for a GSR (past or present) to serve as interim DCM through 2013. The DCM is an elected position requiring you to attend a District meeting in order to "stand" for the position. If you are interested in this service position, please contact Jan T. or your group's GSR for more information.

Grapevine – Rick C. no report

Newsletter: Nancy B. absent

Public Information – Open

Website: Wayne G. no report

Where & When: Carol W., absent

INTERGROUP REP REPORTS

(If you do not see your group listed here, a representative was not in attendance):

ARG – Ali S. reported: ARG has added new meetings – Saturday at 9:00 am, Sunday at 1:00 pm and a Young People’s meeting on Saturday at 10:00 pm.

Big Book Study Group – Wayne B., no report

Boonsboro ABSI – Maureen B. submitted \$38.81 in Pink Can money.

Hagerstown Group – Alt IGR, Barry E. submitted \$7.00 in Pink Can money.

Leitersburg – Mark F., submitted 2 anniversaries

Maple Avenue – Luran C. submitted 3 anniversaries

Mountain Group – Marc L. submitted 2 anniversaries

New Paths – Rick C., no report

Summit Avenue – Alt. IGR Beth S., no report. Report was e-mailed advising that there will be no meeting on June 17 due to VBS.

Williamsport – Dave S. reported that there will be no meeting on July 12th.

OLD BUSINESS –

The vote to amend the HAIG by-laws and election of Intergroup Officers will be take place at the June 23rd meeting.

All groups are strongly encouraged to carefully consider the options below and have a representative present at the June 23rd meeting to vote.

The ad hoc By-Law committee was charged in April with creating an amendment to the By-Laws to address who may make a motion at an Intergroup meeting. Currently the By-Laws do not address this.

The committee recommended amending Article V – Meetings, Section 3, which reads: “Meetings are open to all interested AA members. However voting on any

issue shall be on a one vote per group basis by the Intergroup representatives.”

The amended statement will be one of the three options listed below. Each group is encouraged to consider these options and have their Intergroup Rep attend the June 23rd meeting to vote for only one:

Options

1. Meetings are open to all interested AA members; any member present shall be able to present a motion for a vote however voting on any issue shall be on a one vote per group basis by the Intergroup Representatives.
2. Meetings are open to all interested AA members, however only Intergroup Representatives may present a motion for a vote. Voting on any issue shall be on a one vote per group basis by the Intergroup Representatives.
3. Meetings are open to all interested AA members, however only Intergroup Representatives and Standing Committee Chairpersons may present a motion for a vote. Voting on any issue shall be on a one vote per group basis by the Intergroup Representatives.

In accordance with Article VI – Amendments, Section 1, of the Hagerstown Area Intergroup by-laws, “These by-laws may be amended at any meeting provided notice of intent to amend and content of proposed amendment is published in the newsletter at least two months prior to the meeting when the amendments are to be voted upon”. The options for the proposed change have now been published for three months.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. The nominations for Intergroup Officers are as follows: Wayne G.–Chairperson, Mark F.–Treasurer, Wayne B.–Secretary.

Nominations for these positions will be accepted up to the day of the election – June 23rd. According to Article IV, Section 3 of the HAIG By-Laws; “The officers shall be elected annually in June from among A.A. members sober at least one year by vote of Intergroup Representatives.” Nominees must be present to stand for the officer positions, and nominations may be made from the floor on the day of the election.

2. The Pink Can money from Boonsboro ABSI and Hagerstown Group was received by Liz M. who will carry it to Carol B.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm and closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Tradition Six by Ira C.

“An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.”

In the early days of AA, grandiose plans were considered and sometimes utilized to make AA a large corporate entity. There was talk of alcoholic hospitals, treatment centers, educational outreach etc. Each of these attempts demonstrated why AA should not lend its name to outside enterprises. These enterprises would move AA away from its primary purpose. Countless hours, debates and arguments occurred when outside ventures were discussed. These discussions over several years demonstrate how AA could become embroiled in issues NOT related to its primary purpose; a dangerous precedent to be sure.

Bill W. maintained that for others money may be their "primary purpose"; for us, clearly not. The core of AA is one alcoholic talking to another. To create anything more than that is not our primary purpose. As was stated in Bill's editorial of May 1948 "but we ought to face the fact that we have often quarreled violently about money, property, and administration thereof. Money, in quantity, has always been a baleful influence in group life".

2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

The 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 2-5, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia with the theme: "80 Years – Happy, Joyous and Free".

A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 80th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Georgia Dome. Other meetings, scheduled or informal will take place throughout the weekend in the Georgia World Congress Center and local hotels.

Many are excited about the International Convention and eager for detailed information. As the time gets closer, additional information about the Convention and Atlanta, the host city, will be provided at www.aa.org. Convention registration and housing reservations will open in the fall of 2014.

Consider putting \$1 a day away NOW so that you, too, might join the 50,000 plus members of the Fellowship at this awesome event.

An Invitation to Service

Each June, the Hagerstown Intergroup has an election for the positions of Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. The requirement to stand for these positions is one year of sobriety. If you are interested, attend the Intergroup meeting on June 23rd or ask your group's Intergroup Rep for more information.

After the new chairperson is elected, committee chair positions are filled. Sometimes those who are currently serving remain in the positions, but often vacancies exist offering a wonderful opportunity to do service for the A.A. community and help to fulfill our primary purpose... to carry the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. These are not committees of one, so volunteers are needed to serve on all committees. The HAIG Committees include:

Activities – organize and plan the November Gratitude Breakfast, New Years Eve Dance, May Round Robin Dinner, and any other events approved by HAIG.

Answering Service – work with Antietam Answering to monitor success of distribution of incoming calls from alcoholics in need. Secure volunteers to take calls from the answering service.

Corrections – monitor the list of male and female volunteers who take meetings into the Washington County Detention Center. Make sure all meetings are covered.

Grapevine – Provide all groups with information about our meeting in print plus other Grapevine literature and items. Set up a display of Grapevine items at HAIG events.

Newsletter – write and publish a newsletter containing HAIG Minutes, information and events in Washington County and in A.A. worldwide.

Public Information – provide information about A.A. to professionals and the media.

Website – update and monitor the HAIG website.

Where & When – update and publish the Washington County meeting directory.

Send Group 7 th Tradition Contributions to:	
Hagerstown Intergroup P.O. Box 1153 Hagerstown, MD 21741	Maryland General Service P.O. Box 20177 Baltimore, MD 21284-0177
General Service Board General Service Office P.O. Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163	District 20 Committee c/o Bob C. 229 Broadview Court Falling Waters, WV 25419